

## LISTING OF CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1.-6. (Cancelled)

7. (Previously Presented) A portable data storage system comprising:

a portable mass storage device having a static register and a common interface for connection to a computer system, said computer system providing normal operating power to the portable mass storage device via said common interface, said static register containing a value reflecting parameters defining one or more communication links established during initialization between the host computer and the portable memory drive;

an energy storage device in electrical communication with said static register such that said static register will retain a last stored value throughout a transient disconnection of said common interface; and

a computer program stored on a storage media for execution by said computer system such that upon reconnection of said common interface after said transient disconnection, the said computer program automatically rebuilds the one or more communication links using said last stored value thereby allowing resumption of communication with said portable mass storage device.

8. (Original) The portable data storage system of claim 7, wherein upon detecting a transient disconnection, said computer program provides a warning notification wherein said computer operator is prompted to reconnect said mass storage device.

9. (Original) The portable data storage system of claim 7, wherein said common interface comprises a universal serial bus.

10. (Original) The portable data storage system of claim 7, wherein said common interface comprises an IEEE-1394 bus.

11. (Previously Presented) The portable data storage system of claim 7, wherein said computer system includes memory and a copy of data written to said portable mass storage device is also concurrently written to said memory on a continuous basis.

12. (Original) The portable data storage system of claim 11, wherein said memory comprises random access memory.

13. (Original) The portable data storage system of claim 11, wherein said memory comprises a hard disk.

14. (Original) The portable data storage system of claim 11, wherein said computer program is configured to compare the data stored in said portable mass storage device with the data stored in said memory and to copy data from said memory to said mass storage device to correct any differences.

15.-17. (Cancelled)

18. (Previously Presented) A connection error recovery system comprising:

an external computer device having a static register, said external computer device having common interface for connection to a computer system, said static register storing parameters or settings defining a communication link between the external computer device and the computer system;

an energy storage device in electrical communication with said static register such that said static register will retain a last stored value throughout a transient disconnection of said common interface; and

a computer program stored on a storage media for execution by said computer system such that upon reconnection of said common interface after said transient disconnection, the external computer device will use the parameters of settings stored in said static register to re-establish the communication link and thereby resume normal operation without the intervention of a computer operator.

19.-23. (Cancelled)